



March
2016

West Des Moines eNewsletter



Tom Hadden, City Manager

Water is a hot topic of discussion right now, and we're fortunate the quality of our drinking water in West Des Moines is excellent. There's no need to worry that the toxic lead levels found in Flint, Michigan's water supply will happen here. West Des Moines Water Works recently posted some helpful information online about where our water comes from and how it's tested and treated. Visit their website at www.wdmww.com and read their new publication: [What happened in Flint, Michigan won't happen to West Des Moines H2O.](#)

Quality of Life Council now taking applications

If you would like to participate in our efforts to promote and improve the quality of life in our community, I encourage you to fill out an [application](#) to serve on our Quality of Life Council that's being formed as a result of our WDM 2036 planning effort. Quality of Life issues can be measured, and we value your feedback about what you love about West Des Moines and what we need to be doing now to make sure our area thrives in the future. If you're interested, visit our website and complete an application.

Your Spring/Summer WDM magazine is here

I'm always happy to announce that a new issue of our [WDM Magazine](#) has been published! This publication is your link to what's happening in our community, so I encourage you to take a look at it so you know what's making news in West Des Moines. The [center section](#) of the magazine highlights all the Spring/Summer Parks and Rec programs we offer. [Online registration](#) will begin at 8 a.m. on Tuesday, March 8 for West Des Moines residents and 8 a.m. on Tuesday, March 22, for non-residents. To create or make changes to an existing account, contact the Parks and Recreation Office at 222-3444.



Connect with us! www.wdm.iowa.gov



Let's help drive future plans for transit

DART is updating the region's master plan for public transit, DART Forward 2035, and everyone from the Greater Des Moines area is invited to help.

Adopted in 2011, the long-range plan is being updated at the five-year mark to ensure the plan meets the needs of the community's growing and changing population.



Community members are invited to give input by completing a survey at www.ridedart.com/dartforward or [scheduling a DART Forward 2035](#)

[plan presentation](#) for your organization or business to learn more about the update and how to give feedback.

Citizens can also provide feedback by calling (515) 283-8100, emailing dartforward2035@ridedart.com or mailing their comments to DART Forward 2035 Update, 620 Cherry Street, Des Moines, IA 50309.

Thank you in advance for helping the area plan for public transit!

Discount on aquatic season passes ends March 31

Seasons passes for WDM Aquatic Centers are on sale now! Residents and nonresidents can purchase passes through March 31 at a 10 percent discount.

New pass holders will need to get their photo taken when passes are purchased during regular City Hall hours or at the aquatic centers this summer (lines may be long). Returning pass holders with a current photo on file do not need a new photo.

For more information, visit our [website](#).



WDM Police create new Safety Exchange Zone

The West Des Moines Police Department has established a Safety Exchange Zone at the Law Enforcement Center in order to create a safer environment for individuals conducting child custody exchanges or buying and selling property through online transactions.

The Law Enforcement Center, located at 250 Mills Civic Parkway, is monitored by surveillance cameras 24 hours a day, and the zone is denoted with signs near the main entrance of the building.



Economics 101 Workshop



Visit www.historicwdm.com to learn more.

Join us on Thursday, March 10, at 7 p.m. for the Historic West Des Moines “Economics 101” Workshop that will be held at the Polk County Westside Community Center at 134 6th Street.

The evening will focus on data trends and findings as they relate to the real estate market and economics in Historic WDM.

WDM Firefighter Association’s Annual Easter Egg Hunt

Join us for the West Des Moines Firefighter Association’s Annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 26, at 10:30 a.m.

This year’s event will take place at the DMACC West Campus, 5959 Grand Avenue, WDM. Don’t miss out on the fire trucks, face painting and photos with our special guest ... the **Easter Bunny**!



Meet our new Pierce Velocity Rescue Pumper



A new multi-purpose fire rescue truck is ready to serve the citizens of West Des Moines and Clive!

Station 22 in West Des Moines is now the new home for a \$604,000 rescue pumper truck that took approximately a year to build in Appleton, Wisconsin. The vehicle carries fire, medical and rescue equipment, including a wide array of cribbing and jacks for vehicle entrapments and a full set of hydraulic rescue tools commonly known as the “Jaws of Life.” Funds from West Des Moines and Clive were used to purchase this replacement vehicle.

Financial workshop helps you manage your money

Would you like to become better equipped to manage your finances?

Beginning in March, free financial help classes will be held at West Des Moines Human Services. Participants will create financial goals, develop a spending plan and receive guidance with their credit and debt issues.

Classes are in four week sessions with one two-hour class per week.

For more information or to register, please call 222-3666.



English as a second language classes



English as a Second Language (ESL) classes are now being offered at West Des Moines Human Services in

partnership with Lutheran Services in Iowa.

The beginner-level classes provide instruction in conversational English.

The classes take place on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to noon in eight week sessions.

Volunteer tutors are needed to assist with the classes and provide small group and one-on-one instruction for adult learners. Knowledge of a second language is not necessary to volunteer.

Call 222-3663 for more information or to register as a student or volunteer.

Volunteers needed to teach computer classes

West Des Moines Human Services is in need of a volunteer instructor for beginner-level computer classes.

Flexible schedule requires approximately three hours per week.
Please call 222-3663 to learn more!

Yard waste collection begins on March 28

Let the spring cleaning commence! Yard waste pick-up starts the week of March 28 on your normal trash day. Here's a reminder of what is and isn't accepted for yard waste collection:



Public Works would like to extend a grateful thank you to West Des Moines residents for removing their vehicles from the streets during snow parking bans!

Something as simple as keeping your parked car off City streets during a parking ban helps snow plow operators save time and properly clean our streets from curb to curb.



Spring officially starts on Saturday, March 20!



2016 Solid Waste Events for WDM Citizens

***Annual Spring Cleanup is June 6 – 10
on your regular trash collection day!***

March 28	Yard Waste Pick-up begins on your normal trash collection day
April 9	Scrap Appliance, Metal Drop-off & Paper Shredding, 8 a.m. — 12:00 (noon), West Des Moines Public Works
April 16	Scrap Tire Drop-off, 7:30 a.m. — 4 p.m., West Des Moines Public Works
May 19	National Public Works Week Celebration, 4 p.m. to 7 p.m., Valley Junction Farmer's Market
June 6 – 10	Annual Spring Cleanup — on your regular trash day. Watch for details!
September 10	Scrap Appliance, Metal Drop-off and Paper Shredding, 8 a.m. to Noon, West Des Moines Public Works
December 2	Yard Waste Pick-up Ends
January 2–13, 2017	Winter Yard Waste & Christmas Tree Collection

Household Hazardous waste may be disposed of at the Metro Northwest Transfer Station on the 2nd Saturday, March through December, from 8 a.m. to 12:00 (noon).

Visit www.whereditshouldgo.com for more information.



Yard waste and annual spring clean-up events are available to all West Des Moines residents who are eligible for solid waste collection (single family homes up to and including 4-plex units).

For more details, check the [calendar](#) on the City's website at www.wdm.iowa.gov or call the Public Works Department at 222–3480.

New location for disposal of Household Hazardous Waste



Central Iowans have a new, safe option for getting rid of residential hazardous materials. [A Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off](#) is located on site at Metro Waste Authority's new Metro Northwest Transfer Station in Grimes.

Located just 1.5 miles northwest of I-80/35 and Hwy. 141, the Northwest Drop-Off will be open from 8 a.m. to 12:00 (noon), the second Saturday of the month, from March through December.

Residents can bring up to 75 pounds of unused household hazardous materials to the Northwest Drop-Off free of charge. Common items like motor oil, antifreeze, cleaners, oil based paint and fluorescent light bulbs are accepted. Additionally, latex paint is accepted at \$1/gallon.

Items not accepted at the site include [computers, electronics](#) and medication. [View a full list](#) of accepted and non-accepted items.

Until now, the western suburbs were without a convenient hazardous waste drop-off site with consistent hours. While the new location will offer convenience to many, safety and environmental protection are other key benefits. The site is designed for the acceptance of hazardous materials, so it's equipped with safeguards to protect people and the environment.

Location	Directions	Drop-off Hours
Metro Northwest Transfer Station 4105 SE Beisser Drive Grimes, Iowa (515) 967-5512	Take exit 127 off I-80/35 to Hwy 141 Go 1/2 mile to SE 37th St, go left (west) Go 1/2 mile to SE Beisser Dr, go left (south) Go .3 miles to 4105 SE Beisser Dr, Grimes	March–December Second Saturday of the month 8 a.m. to 12:00 (noon)